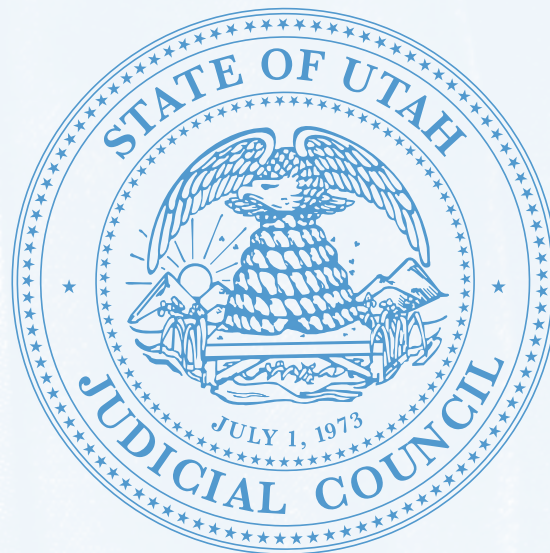




## Utah State Courts

We The People



2007 Annual Report To The Community



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## Utah State Courts Mission Statement

*The mission of the Utah State Courts is to provide an open, fair, efficient, and independent system for the advancement of justice under the law.*

## Introduction

On behalf of our dedicated judges and court staff, we are pleased to provide the 2007 Annual Report to the Community. We welcome this opportunity to provide information on the important work taking place in courthouses across the state and trust the report will encourage you to learn more about your courts.

The work of the courts touches everyone in our community, regardless of occupation or location. People from all walks of life access the courts for a variety of reasons. In each case, the courts work to uphold the Constitution and to rule fairly and impartially based on the facts and the law. Strong courts are an essential part of our democracy and provide a vital balance in our government.

In a recent public opinion poll of Utahns, the courts learned that the public has considerable trust and confidence in the state courts; however, the survey also identified areas where our performance is not meeting expectations. In the future, the court will work to improve in these areas. The survey results are available on the courts website at [www.utcourts.gov/survey](http://www.utcourts.gov/survey).

One area of focus is the assistance we provide to self-represented litigants. A committee of the Judicial Council—the governing body for the judicial branch of government—has been working on a pilot program to provide information and assistance to this rapidly growing court sector.

Another area of focus is the public desire for more information about the courts' work. To this end, the Judicial Council has adopted a set of performance measures called CourTools. The publication of these measures on our website makes the Utah State Courts among the most transparent in the country.

We trust this report will provide valuable information on the Judicial Branch of government. The courts are indispensable to our nation's government and an important part of the local community. We welcome your input and questions. On the back page of this report you'll find a comment card; please take a few minutes to let us know how the courts can better serve you.

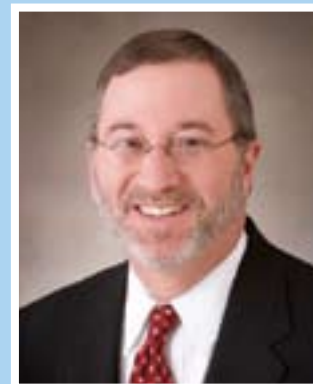
In closing, we express our appreciation to Governor Jon M. Huntsman, Jr., and members of the Legislature for their continued support of Utah's court system.

Honorable Christine M. Durham  
*Chief Justice, Utah Supreme Court*

Daniel J. Becker  
*Utah State Court Administrator*



Honorable Christine M. Durham  
*Chief Justice, Utah Supreme Court*



Daniel J. Becker  
*Utah State Court Administrator*





## Surveys Probe Public Confidence In The Courts

One of the best ways for an organization to determine how the public perceives it is to conduct a survey. Public opinion surveys shed light not only on what the public thinks about an organization, but how these perceptions are formed.

In 2006, the Utah Judicial Council commissioned two court surveys to determine the public's view of the judiciary. The first survey measured court users' views on access to and fairness of the courts, while the second survey measured the public's knowledge, experience, and expectations of the courts.

The survey results showed that the majority of respondents had a positive perception about the judiciary, felt Utah's courts were accessible, and that court employees are respectful and responsive in working with the public.

Survey results also revealed that the Internet is the public's leading source of information about the judiciary. Court users reported finding the state court's website to be a helpful and valuable tool.

The media was also a frequent source of information about the judiciary. Individuals who were more familiar with the courts reported getting their information through TV news and newspapers, while those less familiar with the courts got their information from TV dramas, such as "Law and Order."

One survey showed that individuals who were involved with the courts through jury duty were more confident in the system as a result. Another encouraging finding for the judiciary was that court users reported no barriers to justice when questioned about hours of operation, location, forms, language, and disability.

But the results were not all encouraging. The Judicial Council learned that the courts are not meeting the public's expectations when it comes to reporting on the work of the courts and informing the public about self-represented litigant resources. In addition, a notable percentage of court users reported dissatisfaction with the time needed to complete their courthouse visit.

The survey data will be invaluable as the Judicial Council moves forward in making decisions to further improve court operations. The Council will use the results to ensure the public continues to have access to justice and is treated fairly in the courts. The end result will be better service to the public and an enhanced public trust and confidence in the Utah State Courts.

For more information on the survey results, go to [www.utcourts.gov/survey](http://www.utcourts.gov/survey).



## Judging the Judges

Judges are graded when they stand for retention election and their scores reported in the Voter Information Pamphlet. The grades come from performance evaluations submitted by attorneys and jurors, who witness the judges' performance first-hand. The purpose of the evaluations is to provide judges with information for self-improvement and to help the public make an informed decision about whether to retain a judge.

Judges are evaluated based on the following criteria:

1. *Integrity*
2. *Knowledge and understanding of the law*
3. *Ability to communicate*
4. *Preparation, attentiveness, dignity, and control over proceedings*
5. *Skills as a manager*
6. *Punctuality*
7. *Service to the profession and the public*
8. *Effectiveness in working with other judges, commissioners, and court personnel*

Judges must receive a minimum score of 70 percent on at least 75 percent of the survey questions. In addition, judges must make decisions in a timely manner, obtain 30 hours of continuing judicial education each year, and comply with the Code of Judicial Conduct to be certified for a retention election.

Utah's state court judges consistently receive high marks in the surveys. Looking back at data compiled since 2001, judges regularly scored in the excellent category. This is a grade Utah's judiciary is proud of and one the public can be confident in.

*"The Judicial Branch of government helps me to understand the boundaries of human rights and to appreciate freedom in its most basic sense."*

Dale Wilkinson, Principal, Ogden High School



## Code of Judicial Conduct

The Code of Judicial Conduct—adopted by the Utah Supreme Court—consists of five principles called “canons” of ethical behavior. All state, county, and municipal judges are obligated to comply with the Code of Judicial Conduct. Each canon addresses a general topic and includes specific directives. Following are the five canons:

Canon 1: A judge shall uphold the integrity and independence of the judiciary.

Canon 2: A judge shall avoid impropriety and the appearance of impropriety in all activities.

Canon 3: A judge shall perform the duties of the office impartially and diligently.

Canon 4: A judge shall so conduct the judge's extra-judicial activities as to minimize the risk of conflict with judicial obligations.

Canon 5: A judge shall refrain from political activity inappropriate to the judicial office.

The full text of the Code of Judicial Conduct is available at [www.utcourts.gov/resources/ethadv/](http://www.utcourts.gov/resources/ethadv/).

*An independent and accountable judicial system engenders public trust and confidence.*

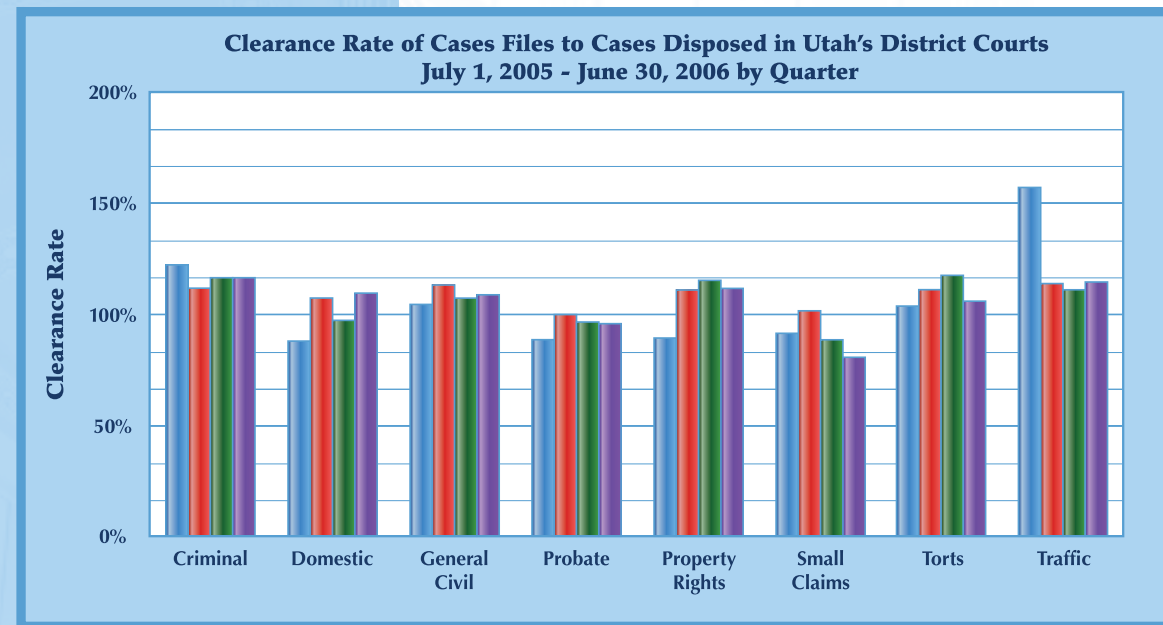


## CourTools: Performance Measures Adopted

The Utah Judicial Council has adopted performance measures—referred to as CourTools—to refine the court’s traditional caseload management measures. One of the CourTools that assists District Courts to monitor workload is tracking clearance rates. The clearance rate is the number of disposed (completed) cases as a percentage of the number of new cases.

Clearance rate measures whether the court is keeping up with its incoming caseload. If cases are not completed in a timely manner, a backlog of cases without a decision grows. Knowledge of clearance rates by case type helps a court pinpoint emerging problems and indicates where improvements can be made.

A clearance rate of 100 percent means the number of cases being filed equals the number of cases being disposed. A clearance rate less than 100 percent means fewer cases are being disposed than are being filed, while a clearance rate of more than 100 percent means more cases are being disposed than are being filed.



The adjacent chart shows the clearance rate of cases filed July 1, 2005 through June 20, 2006 in Utah’s District Courts.

Overall, the clearance rates of Utah’s District Courts are near or above 100 percent indicating that judges and staff are working hard to keep current with the courts’ caseload. CourTools are available at [www.utcourts.gov/courtools](http://www.utcourts.gov/courtools).

1st Quarter=blue  
2nd Quarter=red

3rd Quarter=green  
4th Quarter=purple



## Self-represented Needs Assessment

Thousands of people appear in Utah's courts each year without an attorney. In an effort to learn more about the needs of these self-represented litigants, the Utah State Courts' Standing Committee on Resources for Self-Represented Parties undertook a survey in 2006 to ask these litigants about their court experience.

During February and March 2006, 708 surveys were collected in 15 rural and urban district and justice courts statewide. Not only were self-represented litigants surveyed, but also those who interact with them such as judges, attorneys, and court clerks.

The survey results provided valuable insight into what is and isn't working for self-represented litigants. For example, self-represented litigants reported a high level of satisfaction with courteous and respectful treatment by court staff, fair handling of their cases by judicial officers, and the outcome of their hearings.

On the other hand, judges, opposing counsel, and clerks reported challenges with self-represented litigants in court. For example, self-represented litigants expect judges and court staff to provide them with legal advice, which is not allowed because of the need for neutrality. Survey respondents also reported that self-represented litigants do not understand procedure and evidence rules, are often not prepared for hearings, and require additional time.

As a result of the survey, the committee has recommended creating a pilot project in two judicial districts to assist self-represented litigants. The pilot project would include the following components: a virtual self-help support center staffed by an attorney who would provide information and assistance to self-represented litigants by phone or via the Internet; clinics and workshops targeted to self-represented litigants; and a self-help work space in each courthouse.

In addition, the committee has recommended providing clerical and judicial training on the topic; developing additional forms for self-represented litigants; reviewing and developing the court's website for self-represented litigants; promoting State Law Library services to the public; assessing community-sponsored resources as conduits for self-help legal information; and supporting expansion of legal representation, unbundled legal services, and clinics through non-court, lawyer-sponsored resources.

The committee is seeking funding during the 2007 Legislature Session to initiate a pilot project to buy needed equipment and hire a staff attorney.

The Utah State Courts want to ensure access to the legal system to people regardless of income. The self-represented litigant pilot program will help to attain this goal.





### The New Tooele Courthouse

The new Tooele Courthouse is scheduled to open to the public March 2007. The courthouse will include 57,000 sq. feet of space with three finished courtrooms for use by the district, juvenile, and justice courts. The building is expandable to accommodate up to four additional courtrooms. Construction began in August 2005.

## Court Services for Self-represented Litigants

The idea of presenting your own case in court may seem intriguing at first, but doing so isn't as easy as TV programs like "Law and Order" and "Boston Legal" lead viewers to believe. Preparing for a court case takes time, knowledge, and patience. Individuals who represent themselves in court—known as self-represented litigants—must know and follow the same rules attorneys do.

Before deciding to represent themselves in court, potential litigants should consider the type of case they want to bring to court. Litigants most often represent themselves in cases involving common legal problems such as divorce, landlord tenant disputes, guardianships for minors, protective order filings, and small claims cases.

In reality, self-represented litigants usually represent themselves not because they choose to, but because they can't afford to hire an attorney. However, there are alternatives to self-representation, such as obtaining free legal representation (for individuals with low incomes); hiring an attorney to provide select services; and opting for mediation or arbitration. Often times, these services are in short supply.

Court personnel can provide limited information but cannot give legal advice. The Utah State Court's website has helpful information for individuals who represent themselves in court. The website includes information on how to access legal assistance programs as well as instructions on common court procedures and the accompanying forms. For more information on navigating Utah's court system, go to [www.utcourts.gov/howto](http://www.utcourts.gov/howto).

*"The Judicial Branch is important because it is insulated from the other branches of government, is impartial when making decisions, and not swayed by public opinion."*

**Brent Platt**, Western Region Director, Division of Child and Family Services



## Internal Audit: The Big Picture Perspective

“Auditing is nothing to be feared,” says Heather Mackenzie-Campbell, Utah State Courts Internal Audit director. “It is like going to the doctor for a check-up. You don’t look forward to the visit, but it is necessary to stay healthy.”

Similarly, the primary function of an internal audit is to identify health risks to a court or program, and to recommend new or improved procedures. The Utah Judicial Council and court management are committed to public accountability. To that end, the Audit Services Department was established in 1989 with the goal to examine and evaluate court operations. Audit Services is tasked with conducting audits throughout the Judicial Branch, including departments in the Administrative Office of the Courts as well as the appellate, district, juvenile, and justice courts.

The Utah State Courts’ Audit Services Department is located in the Administrative Office of the Courts where four employees conduct fiscal and performance audits to strengthen court operations. Auditors also consult on the front-end of system designs and process improvements, and train judges and court employees on internal controls and fraud prevention.

The Judicial Council’s Management Committee serves as the audit committee, which approves and prioritizes audits to be performed. The results of each audit—including corrective actions—are reported to the audit committee, appropriate court-level board, presiding judge, and court managers.

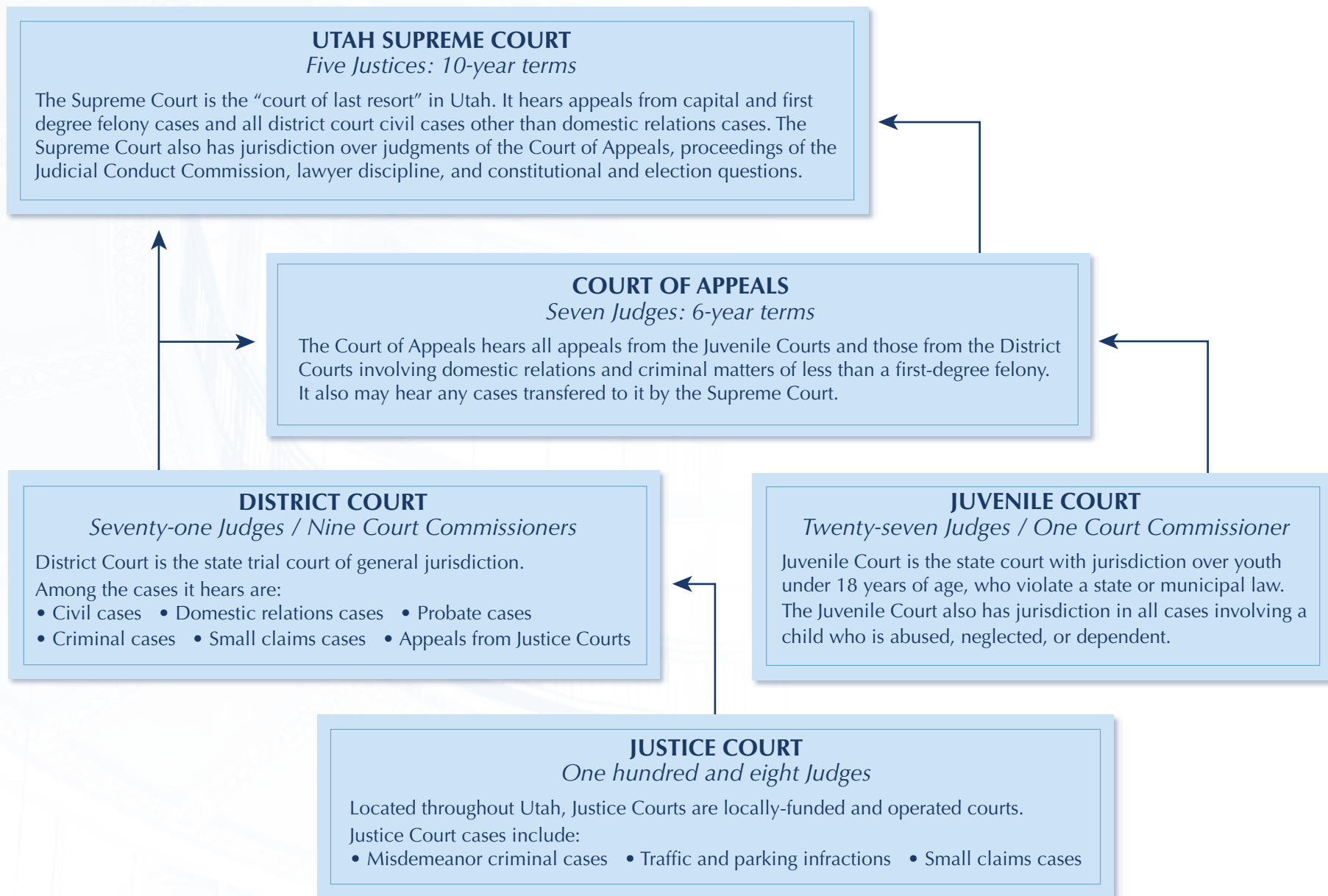
Whether the task is risk identification, compliance with laws and rules, or accounting control recommendations, the audit function objectively evaluates the judiciary’s activities under audit. With this big-picture mindset, internal audit can help court management implement effective processes that strengthen accountability.



## Justice Courts Under Review

The Utah Judicial Council has formed an ad hoc Justice Court Study Committee to conduct a comprehensive review of the Justice Court system. The committee—chaired by Utah Supreme Court Justice Ronald Nehring—is comprised of several Judicial Council members, a Utah State Bar Representative, Justice Court judges, and court administrators. The goal of the committee is to identify changes that could be made to enhance Justice Court judges’ independence and increase the public’s trust and confidence in justice courts. In the coming year, the committee plans to meet with additional stakeholders to determine how to best meet its goal.

# Navigating the Court System





## Utah Judicial Council

Chief Justice Christine M. Durham, *chair, Utah Supreme Court*  
 Judge James Z. Davis, *vice chair, Utah Court of Appeals*  
 Judge J. Mark Andrus, *Second District Juvenile Court*  
 Judge William Barrett, *Third District Court*  
 Judge G. Rand Beacham, *Fifth District Court*  
 Judge Hans Chamberlain, *Fifth District Juvenile Court*  
 Judge Robert K. Hilder, *Third District Court*  
 Judge Michael Kwan, *Taylorsville Justice Court*  
 Judge Michael D. Lyon, *Second District Court*  
 Justice Ronald E. Nehring, *Utah Supreme Court*  
 Judge Kevin Nelson, *Mantua Justice Court*  
 Judge G. A. "Jody" Petry, *Uintah County Justice Court*  
 Judge Gary D. Stott, *Fourth District Court*  
 Scott Sabey, Esq. *Utah State Bar Representative*  
 Daniel J. Becker, *secretariat, State Court Administrator*

## Utah State Courts Board of Judges

The Utah State Courts has four boards of judges representing each court level. The boards propose and adopt court rules, serve as liaison between local courts and the Judicial Council, and plan budget and legislative priorities.

### Board of Appellate Court Judges

Chief Justice Christine M. Durham, *chair, Utah Supreme Court*  
 Judge Russell W. Bench, *Presiding Judge, Utah Court of Appeals*  
 Judge Judith M. Billings, *Utah Court of Appeals*  
 Judge James Z. Davis, *Utah Court of Appeals*  
 Justice Matthew B. Durrant, *Utah Supreme Court*  
 Judge Pamela T. Greenwood, *Utah Court of Appeals*  
 Judge Carolyn B. McHugh, *Utah Court of Appeals*  
 Justice Ronald E. Nehring, *Utah Supreme Court*  
 Judge Gregory K. Orme, *Utah Court of Appeals*  
 Justice Jill N. Parrish, *Utah Supreme Court*  
 Judge William A. Thorne, Jr., *Utah Court of Appeals*  
 Justice Michael J. Wilkins, *Utah Supreme Court*  
 Matty Branch, *board staff, Appellate Court Administrator*

*Continued on Page 10*

## Utah Judicial Council 2006-2007

The Utah Judicial Council directs the activities of all Utah state courts. The Judicial Council is responsible for adopting uniform rules for the administration of all courts in the state, setting standards for judicial performance, court facilities, support services, and judicial and nonjudicial personnel. The Judicial Council holds monthly meetings typically at the Scott M. Matheson Courthouse in Salt Lake City. These meetings are open to the public and may be attended by interested parties. For dates and locations of Judicial Council meetings, go to [www.utcourts.gov/admin/judcncl/sched.htm](http://www.utcourts.gov/admin/judcncl/sched.htm).



**Front Row:** Utah State Court Administrator Daniel J. Becker, Utah State Bar Representative Scott Sabey, Esq., Utah Supreme Court Justice Christine M. Durham

**Back Row:** Judge Michael Kwan, Judge Gary D. Stott, Judge G.A. 'Jody' Petry, Judge G. Rand Beacham, Judge James Z. Davis, Judge Michael D. Lyon, Judge Robert K. Hilder, Judge J. Mark Andrus, Justice Ronald E. Nehring, Judge Kevin L. Nelson

**Not pictured:** Judge William Barrett, Judge Hans Chamberlain

## Board of District Court Judges

Judge Paul Maughan, chair, *Third District Court*  
 Judge Judith S. Hanson Atherton, *Third District Court*  
 Judge John C. Backlund, *Fourth District Court*  
 Judge Ben H. Hadfield, *First District Court*  
 Judge Pamela G. Heffernan, *Second District Court*  
 Judge Thomas L. Kay, *Second District Court*  
 Judge Howard Maetani, *Fourth District Court*  
 Judge David L. Mower, *Sixth District Court*  
 Judge Lynn Payne, *Eighth District Court*  
 Judge Anthony B. Quinn, *Third District Court*  
 Mark Jones, board staff, *District Court Administrator*

## Board of Juvenile Court Judges

Judge Charles Behrens, chair, *Third District Juvenile Court*  
 Judge Thomas M. Higbee, *Fifth District Juvenile Court*  
 Judge Mary Manley, *Seventh District Juvenile Court*  
 Judge Kathleen Nelson, *Second District Juvenile Court*  
 Judge C. Dane Nolan, *Third District Juvenile Court*  
 Judge Mary Noonan, *Fourth District Juvenile Court*  
 Judge Stephen Van Dyke, *Second District Juvenile Court*  
 Ray Wahl, board staff, *Juvenile Court Administrator*

## Board of Justice Court Judges

Judge Jerald L. Jensen, chair, *Davis County & Sunset City Justice Courts*  
 Judge Joseph M. Bean, *Syracuse Justice Court*  
 Judge Ronald R. Hare, *Millard County & Fillmore City Justice Courts*  
 Judge Michael Kwan, *Taylorsville City Justice Court*  
 Judge David C. Marx, *Hyde Park & North Logan City Justice Courts*  
 Judge Brendan P. McCullagh, *West Valley City Justice Court*  
 Judge Kevin Nelson, *Council Representative, Mantua Justice Court*  
 Judge G. A. "Jody" Petry, *Council Representative, Uintah County Justice Court & Naples City Justice Court*  
 Judge Clair Poulson, *Duchesne County Justice Court*  
 Judge John Sandberg, *Clearfield & Clinton City Justice Courts*  
 Richard Schwermer, board staff, *Assistant State Court Administrator*

## Presiding Judges

The presiding judge is elected by a majority vote of judges from the court or district and is responsible for effective court operation. The presiding judge implements and enforces rules, policies, and directions of the Judicial Council and often schedules calendars and case assignments.

During the past two years, the Utah State Courts have embarked on an initiative to better define and strengthen the role of the presiding judges. This process has included review and revision of existing rules and statutes, along with training that is designed to enhance the judge's administrative skills.

## Presiding Judges

Utah Supreme Court-Chief Justice Christine M. Durham  
 Court of Appeals-Judge Russell W. Bench  
 First District Court-Judge Thomas Willmore  
 First District Juvenile Court-Judge Larry Jones  
 Second District Court-Judge Glen Dawson  
 Second District Juvenile Court-Judge Kathleen Nelson  
 Third District Court-Judge Sandra Peuler  
 Third District Juvenile Court-Judge Kimberly Hornak  
 Fourth District Court-Judge Anthony Schofield  
 Fourth District Juvenile Court-Judge Sterling Sainsbury  
 Fifth District Court-Judge Michael Westfall  
 Fifth District Juvenile Court-Judge Thomas Higbee  
 Sixth District Court-Judge David L. Mower  
 Sixth District Juvenile Court-Judge Paul Lyman  
 Seventh District Court-Judge Lyle R. Anderson  
 Seventh District Juvenile Court-Judge Scott Johansen  
 Eighth District Court-Judge Lynn Payne  
 Eighth District Juvenile Court-Judge Larry Steele



**Utah Supreme Court Photo** - (l-r) Associate Chief Justice Michael J. Wilkins, Justice Matthew B. Durrant, Chief Justice Christine M. Durham, Justice Ronald Nehring, Justice Jill N. Parrish

## Trial Court Executives

The Utah State Courts' trial court executives are responsible for day-to-day supervision of non-judicial administration of the courts. Duties include hiring and supervising staff, developing and managing a budget, managing facilities, managing court calendars, and developing and managing court security plans.

Appellate Courts-Matty Branch  
 First District and Juvenile Courts-Sharon Hancey  
 Second District Court-Sylvester Daniels  
 Second District Juvenile Court-Beani Martinez  
 Third District Court-Peggy Gentles  
 Third District Juvenile Court-Bruce Thomas  
 Fourth District Court-Paul Vance  
 Fourth District Juvenile Court-John Day  
 Fifth District and Juvenile Courts-Rick Davis  
 Sixth District and Juvenile Courts-Brent Bowcutt  
 Seventh District and Juvenile Courts-Bill Engle  
 Eighth District and Juvenile Courts-Russell Pearson

*"I am proud to work in Utah's court system. The judges and court staff are dedicated to preserving public access, treating others with fairness and respect, rehabilitating through drug courts, and preserving the family."*

Carolyn Smitherman, Clerk of the Court, St. George



## Administrative Office of the Courts

The Administrative Office of the Courts is responsible for organizing and administering all of the non-judicial offices of the Utah State Courts. Activities include implementing the standards, policies, and rules established by the Utah Judicial Council. The Court Administrator Act provides for the appointment of a State Court Administrator with duties and responsibilities outlined in the Utah Code. Appellate, district, juvenile, and justice court administrators and local court executives assist the state court administrator in performing these duties and responsibilities. Also assisting the state court administrator are personnel in finance, human resources, internal audit, judicial education, law, planning, public information, rules, and technology. Mediators, Office of the Guardian ad Litem, a District Court capital case law clerk, and a Juvenile Court law clerk are also based in the Administrative Office of the Courts.

For more information on Utah's State Court System, go to [www.utcourts.gov](http://www.utcourts.gov).



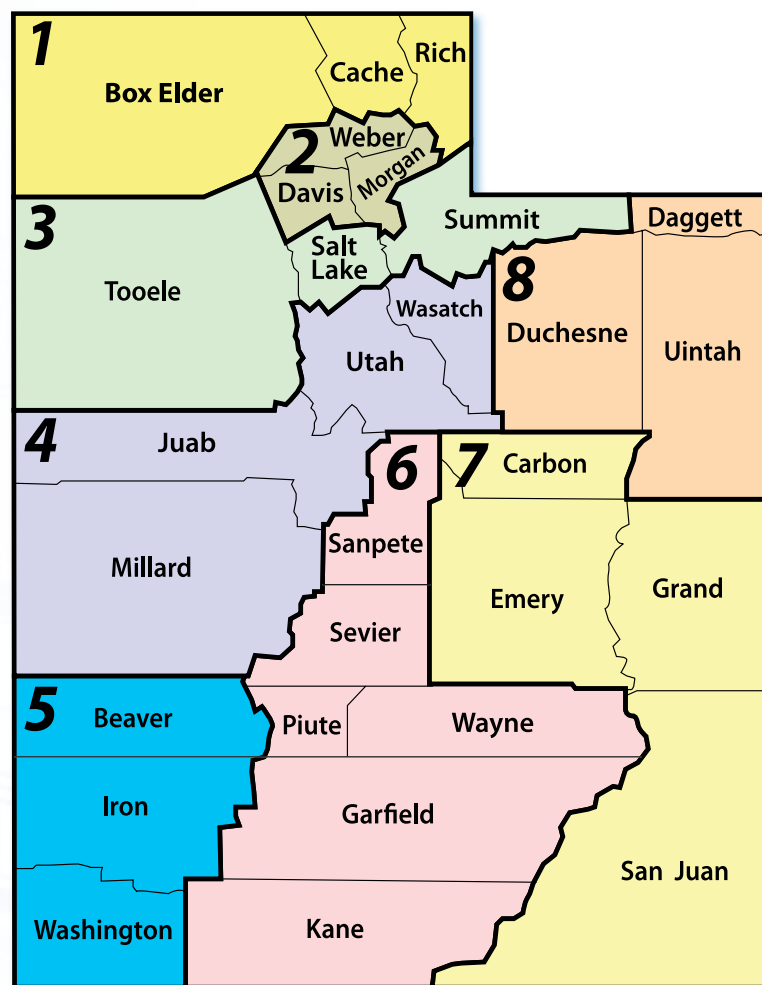


## You Can Find It On The Web

Here are ten ways to take advantage of [www.utcourts.gov](http://www.utcourts.gov):

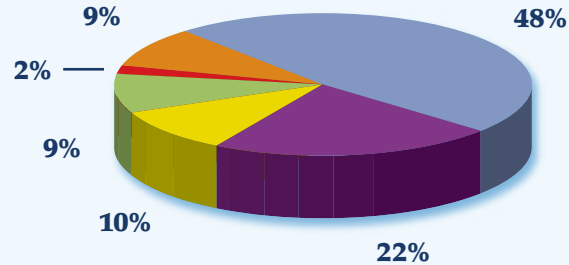
1. Look up frequently asked questions about jury duty
2. Prepare court documents as a self-represented litigant
3. Check the court calendar to check the date and time of a case
4. Find the location and phone number of a courthouse
5. Read an Appellate Court opinion on the biography page
6. Find out the number of cases filed with the court and other statistics
7. Request a judge to speak to your students
8. Find lesson plan for teachers
9. Learn out about job opportunities with the Utah State Courts
10. Read the Chief Justice's State of the Judiciary address.

## Judicial Districts



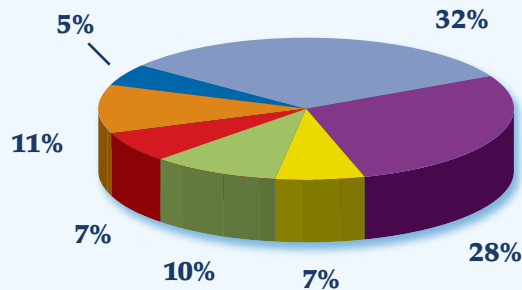
## FY 2006 Supreme Court Filings

Civil Appeals	328
Writ of Certiorari	145
Interlocutory Appeals	67
Criminal Appeals	57
Rule Making	16
Other	57
<b>Total Filings</b>	<b>670</b>
<b>Total FY06 Dispositions</b>	<b>717</b>



## FY 2006 Court of Appeals Filings

Civil Appeals	315
Criminal Appeals	272
Administrative Agency	68
Interlocutory Appeals	98
Domestic Civil Appeals	68
Juvenile Appeals	103
Other	50
<b>Total Filings</b>	<b>974</b>
<b>Total FY06 Dispositions</b>	<b>974</b>



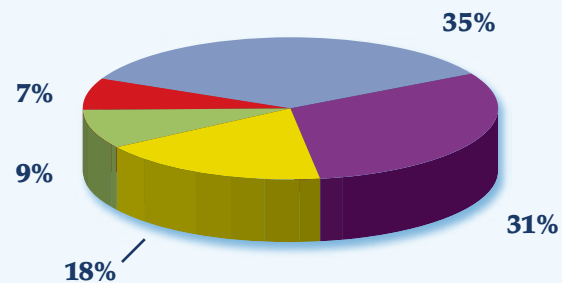
*"Without the checks and balances provided by a strong judicial system, our state and nation cannot protect the rights and freedom of its citizens. Utah's courts are critical to the function of the state's economy and banking system. Businesses and individuals can enter into transactions with confidence, knowing that Utah's courts are there to fairly apply the law if other parties don't live up to their promises."*

A. Scott Anderson,  
Zions Bank President  
and CEO



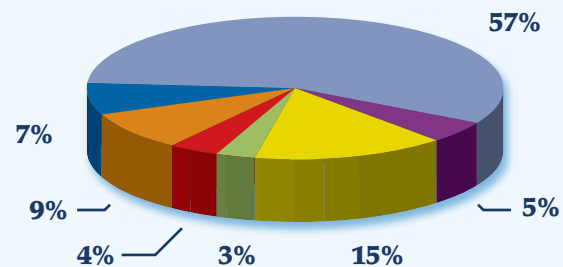
## FY 2006 District Court

	Filings	Dispositions
Civil	84,580	91,835
Traffic	72,349	85,868
Criminal	41,605	48,536
Domestic	20,710	21,073
Small Claims	16,226	14,651
Other	103	49
<b>Total</b>	<b>235,573</b>	<b>262,012</b>



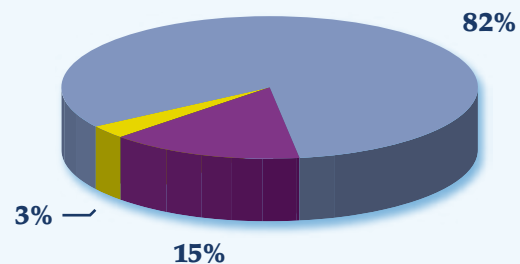
## CY 2006 Juvenile Court

	Referrals
Misdemeanors	26,255
Infractions	2,099
Juvenile Status	6,747
Traffic	1,269
Adult Offenses	2,017
Dependency-Neglect-Abuse	3,929
Felonies	3,014
<b>Total</b>	<b>45,329</b>



## FY 2006 Justice Court

	Filings	Dispositions
Traffic	459,693	477,168
Misdemeanor	83,282	79,374
Small Claims	17,506	21,842
<b>Total</b>	<b>560,481</b>	<b>578,384</b>

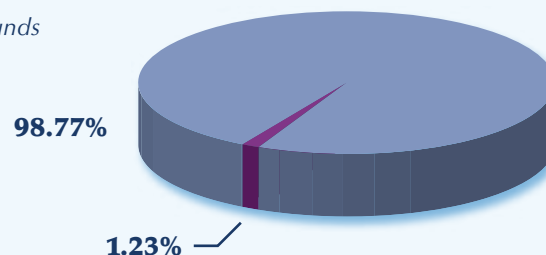




## FY 2007 Annual Judicial Budget as Part of State of Utah Budget

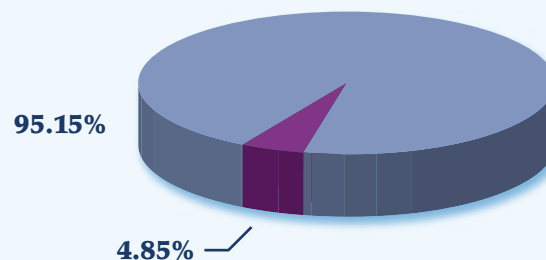
Judicial Budget	\$120,366,500	appropriated FY 2007 budget
State Budget	\$9,802,676,500	appropriated FY 2007 budget

All Funds Including General Funds & Federal Funds



## General Funds Only

Judicial Budget	\$104,566,900	appropriated FY 2007 budget
State Budget	\$2,180,920,700	appropriated FY 2007 budget



*"The courts preserve freedom by ensuring every person no matter age, race, or gender is entitled to a fair trial by an objective jury. As a first time juror this year, I was reminded how truly lucky we are to be in country ruled by the people and for the people. All too often we take our freedom for granted."*

Marcia Thompson,  
Former Juror





## Awards, Honors, and Recognition

**Chelsey Axtell**, *deputy court clerk*,  
2006 Seventh Judicial District Employee of the Year

**Daniel J. Becker**, *Utah State Court administrator*,  
Warren E. Burger Award for Excellence in Court Administration,  
National Center for State Courts

**CARE Core Team Chairs**,  
**Nancy Adams**-assistant clerk of court, First District Juvenile Court  
**Brenda Crockett**-training specialist, Administrative Office of the Courts  
**Peggy Johnson**-clerk of court, Sixth District Court  
**Kyle Memmott**-chief probation officer, Third District Juvenile Court

**Honorable Kevin R. Christensen**, *Box Elder Justice Court Judge*,  
Scott M. Matheson Award, Utah State Bar

**Diane Cowdrey, Ed.D.**, *education director*,  
Administrative Office of the Courts, 2006 Amicus Curiae Award,  
Association and Board of Justice Court Judges.

**JoAnn Cottam**, *judicial secretary*,  
Utah Supreme Court, Meritorious Service Award

**Marlene Dazley**, *lead deputy court clerk*,  
Third District Court, Meritorious Service Award

**Kathy Elton**, *Alternative Dispute Resolution director*,  
Administrative Office of the Courts, Peacekeeper of the Year,  
Utah Council on Conflict Resolution

**Brett Folkman**, *probation officer supervisor*,  
First District Juvenile Court, Meritorious Service Award

**Kevin J. Gully, Ph.D., ABPP**, *clinical associate professor of*  
*Psychology and Educational Psychology*, University of Utah,  
2006 Amicus Curiae Award

**Honorable Paul Iwasaki**, *Second District Juvenile Court Judge*,  
Distinguished Lawyer of the Year Award,  
Utah Minority Bar Association

**Honorable Gordon Low**, *First District Court Judge*,  
Distinguished Judge of the Year Award, Utah State Bar

**Joanne McKee**, *clerk of court*,  
Eighth District Court, Meritorious Service Award

**Honorable Sam McVey**, *Fourth District Court Judge*,  
Edward W. Clyde Distinguished Service Award, Utah State Bar

**Marilyn Neal**, *deputy court clerk*,  
Fourth District Court, Meritorious Service Award

**Ogden's Project Empower,**  
2006 President's Award, The American Probation and Parole Association

**Honorable John L. Sandberg,** *Clinton and Clearfield Justice Courts,*  
2006 Quality of Justice Award

**Rob Simonson,** *probation officer,*  
Fourth District Juvenile Court, UCA Pride Award recipient

**Wayne Tucker,** *juvenile probation officer,*  
2006 Seventh Judicial District Employee of the Year

**Ray Wahl,** *Juvenile Court administrator,*  
Administrative Office of the Courts, 2006 Judicial Administration Award

**Utah State Courts' 2006 Annual Report to the Community,**  
Golden Spike Silver Award

**Utah State Courts' Law Day Publicity and Media Plan,**  
Golden Spike Bronze Award

### Judges Who Retired in 2006

Judge Pat B. Brian, *Third District Court*  
Judge Leslie D. Brown, *Fourth District Juvenile Court*  
Judge Bryce Bryner, *Seventh District Court*  
Judge Dennis J. Frederick, *Third District Court*  
Judge Dennis M. Fuchs, *Third District Court*  
Judge Timothy R. Hanson, *Third District Court*  
Judge Robert Yeates, *Third District Juvenile Court*

### In Memoriam

Honorable Sterling E. Gardner, *South Weber City Justice Court*  
*and Uintah City Justice Court,* retired  
Honorable Ronald O. Hyde, *Second District Court,* retired  
Honorable Franklyn B. Matheson, *Third District Juvenile Court,* retired  
Honorable John Rokich, *Third District Court Judge,* retired  
Honorable Normand Thompson, *Beaver County Justice Court,* retired  
Honorable Judith F. Whitmer, *Second District Juvenile Court,* retired  
John Greene, *Eighth Judicial District Trial Court Executive*



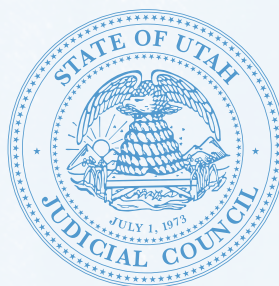

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*"The courts are vitally important  
to our society. An open courtroom  
allows people to see decisions being made  
that affect not only individual lives,  
but the public as a whole."*

Ben Winslow,  
*president, Utah Headliners Chapter,  
Society of Professional Journalists*







Administrative Office of the Courts  
450 South State  
Salt Lake City, UT 84114-0241  
(801) 578-3800  
[www.utcourts.gov](http://www.utcourts.gov)